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# Perfins Club

## Services, Activities, and Awards

The Perfins Club provides a variety of ongoing services and, annually, recognizes the contributions of selected members for their contributions to the Club and perfins collecting in general. Listed on the back of the ten-times per year 'Perfins Bulletin' are the names of the Club officers and standing Committee Chairmen (with addresses [snail mail and e-mail] and phone numbers). Below is a fuller description of the services provided by each of the Chairmen. As for other months, information beyond their names will be found on the last page of this Bulletin.

### Services

#### Perfins Club Auction

The Perfins Club sponsors periodic auctions of perfinned stamps and related materials. Currently operated by Bruce Brunell, lots submitted to him are sold for a 10% commission (to the Club) paid by the seller.

#### Perfins Club Library

Maintained by Doug Turner, the Club Library is a collection of historical and current documents (books, catalogs, worksheets, etc) relating to perfins. All items in the Library are available to members for the price of postage both ways. A full listing of items available is published about every two years in the Bulletin or is available online at the Club website (see later). [Ed. Note – The library is current unavailable – membership will be notified when it reopens for business.]

#### Perfins Stamp Sales

Robert T. Combs manages the Club's Sales Department. He sells individual stamps and other perfins related items for a 15% (to the Club) seller's commission. Individual stamps are sold at the following rates (F – C from packets; C and better from books or as individual items): While prices are set by the seller, recommended pricing for U.S. in postage stamps is as follows: F & E - 5¢ -> 10¢ ea; D - 15¢ -> 25¢ ea; C - 50¢ -> \$1.50 ea; C+ - 50¢ -> \$2.00 ea; B & B+ \$1.50 -> \$5.00 ea; and, A - \$2.50 and up ea. In addition, foreign perfins are available for 10¢ and up each. U.S. prepers, special items and many foreign patterns are also often available at higher prices as set by the seller. Empty sales booklets are also for sale at 50 cents each or 12 for \$5.00 plus postage, to prospective sellers.

#### Perfins Cover Sales

Millard J. Driscoll runs the Club's Cover Sales Department. Covers franked with perfinned stamps consigned to the Cover Sales Department are sold at a 20% seller's commission (to the benefit of the Club). Prices for covers generally depend on condition of the cover and scarcity of the perfin. Millard will work with sellers to establish prices for items to be sold.

#### Publication Sales

Dave Lightle runs the Club's Publications Sales Department. Current worldwide catalogs are made available to Club members. As for the library, publications available are published in the Bulletin about once every two years.

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The Club sponsors the development and maintenance of a variety of catalogs. As the US perfins club, we maintain a catalog of patterns in US postage stamps as our primary cataloging effort. Recently a major effort has been undertaken to add a catalog of patterns found in US revenue stamps. And, finally, based on a series of worksheets and the efforts of a Club member (Bob Schwerdt), we now maintain catalogs for a variety of foreign areas not generally maintained by other international stamp clubs or individuals interested in perfins. In reverse order from the previous discussion, the three catalogs are presented below.

#### Foreign Catalog Publication

John M. Randall, the current foreign Catalog Editor, is responsible to provide technical support

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for the production and maintenance of foreign catalogs produced by the Perfins Club. John is also available to the membership for verifying or interpreting items found in the Catalog. For reports of new foreign patterns or technical help in the production of catalogs for new areas, contact John.

### **U.S. Revenue Development & Publication**

Art Monghan is the current Chairman for the production of a U.S. Revenue Perfins Catalog. This relatively new initiative is an attempt to catalog all perfin designs found in Federal and State revenue stamps and documents. Some of the stamps include stock transfer, documentary, proprietary, beer, wine, narcotic, oleomargarine, and any other stamp reflecting a paid tax. Documents include land deeds, shares, bonds, bank checks, and other types of revenue paper. No limits have been placed on the type or size of these perfin designs. They can be as small as a cut-out punch or as big as "PAID" or "CANCELED" with or without an adjustable date.

Art works with a group of Club members plus members of several other related groups and some unaffiliated individuals. Members interested in the

project can review a complete set of work sheets that are available from the Club Library.

### **U.S. Catalog Maintenance & Publication**

The U.S. Catalog Chairman (currently temporarily vacant) is responsible for reviewing and recording reports of new patterns, user identities, or user locations, for perfin patterns in U. S. postage stamps. He or she is also available to the membership for verifying or interpreting items found in the Catalog. Periodically, as sufficient new or revised information is developed, the U. S. Catalog Chairman issues A&C (Additions & Corrections) pages to update the current US Catalog.

### **Publication of the Perfins Bulletin**

Ten times each year, the Club publishes *The Perfins Bulletin*. This periodical is the official newsletter of the Club, and contains a variety of research articles, news items, Club Business, and other information of interest to, and provided by, members of the Club. Submit information for publication to the Editor (currently, Paul Mistretta) for publication as space becomes available.

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## **Awards**

### **Hallock Card Award**

This award is made annually to recognize one or more Club members for his, her or their contributions to the Club and to the hobby of perfins collecting. The Club's highest award for achievement, the Hallock Card award is named for the publisher of "Perfins" (in April 1945), the newsletter which first reported information of interest to collectors of perfins and which first identified a group of collectors who subsequently founded the Perfins Club the first award was made in 1967 and each year subsequent to that the previous year's winner has been named as

Chairman of the nominating committee for the current year. Nominations for the 2004 Hallock Card award should be forwarded to Rudy Roy (Club Vice-President)

### **Floyd Walker Award**

The Floyd Walker Award is made to recognize Club members for outstanding research/writing during the previous year. Nominations for this award recipient should be made either to Club President Bob Szymanski or to Bulletin Editor Paul Mistretta.

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## **Activities**

Each year members of the Perfins Club meet at an **Annual Convention**. Most recently we have met

in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Precancel Society, giving members an opportunity

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to buy, sell or trade perfin (and precancels), and to swap stories. In addition to these activities, the Club's annual business meeting and also a Club banquet are held during the convention.

**The Bay Area Perfin Association (BAPA)** is an informal group of collectors from the San Francisco area who meet a few times each year (on Saturday) at the home of John and Virginia Randall. For more information about this group, contact John (Foreign Catalog Editor) or Alan Sandy (e-mail volsand@pacbell.net or 707-765-6750).

During the past couple of years a group of perfins collectors have held a **Get Together in New**

**England** in January and September (usually the third Saturday at St. Paul's Episcopal Parish Center in Millis, MA). The meeting is informal and is announced in the Bulletin during the month preceding the meeting.

Finally the **Club Website** was established and is maintained by member Mike Hynes. It is found at <http://www.perfins.org>. This site includes a complete listing of the Club's officers, its library holdings, catalogs available for purchase, a listing of Club auctions from #70 to the present (currently being supplemented to fill a recent gap), and a significant list of links to perfin related and general stamp web sites.